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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

GAUMER HONORED

CHARLESTON -- Craig Peyton Gaumer of Sioux Falls, S.D., is the recipient of a 1995 Distinguished Alumnus Award from Eastern Illinois University.

The award is given by the EIU Alumni Association to alumni who have distinguished themselves in either academic, literary, business, professional, and/or public service to the university and brought prestige to their alma mater.

Gaumer and four other alumni award recipients were honored at Eastern's Homecoming on Saturday, Oct. 28. He rode in the Homecoming parade and was recognized during halftime of the EIU vs. Illinois State University Homecoming football game. Award recipients also were guests at a dinner in their honor on Saturday evening.

Gaumer, assistant U.S. attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice, earned a bachelor's degree in journalism and a master's degree in sociology in 1984 and 1986, respectively, from Eastern. He completed his law degree at Washington University School of Law.

He heads the justice department's bankruptcy fraud task force for the

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District of South Dakota and was commended by U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno for his involvement in prosecuting one of South Dakota's first major bankruptcy fraud cases. He also contributes his legal services to the U.S. Army, serving as a first lieutenant in the Army Reserve Judge Advocate General's Corps.

He is the author of several law review articles and received the 1993 Lincoln Legal Writing Award from the Illinois Bar Association. His volunteer work includes Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Kansas City, Meals on Wheels and co-adviser for an Explorer South group in Sioux Falls.

A native of Collinsville, Ill., he and his wife, Lynn, reside in Sioux Falls.

His parents are David and Betty Gaumer of Decatur, Ill., formerly of Collinsville.